



Northern Nevada HIV Prevention Planning Group

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 – 2:00 PM
Washoe County Health District
1001 East Ninth St., Conference Room A
Reno, NV

MINUTES

Members Present: Jennifer Howell, Lyell Collins, Sarah Almaraz, Dina Waters for Gwen Taylor, Theron Huntamer, Doug Hodges, Robert Ashley, Jenna Bieber, Steve Daugherty, Elaine Bergenheier, Robert Harding, Gerold Dermid (alt)

Absences Excused: Henedina Tollerstad

Guests Present: Nathan Militante, Scott Benton, Roland Castro-Boulware, Kellie Ducker, Irene Rose, Brendan Dalton, Miguel Ochoa, Angela Penny, Miranda Branson, Karla Rodriguez, Preston Tang, Karina Tomco, Ashlee Jones, Mary Karls, Mitchell Bautista, Michael Pitkin, Julia Ausmus, Jazmin Sarmiento, Xhosh Millington, Tory Johnson, Angela Penny

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair Doug Hodges called the meeting to order at 2:14 pm.

2. Public Comment

Michael Pitkin spoke of the different places he has lived and received services while living with HIV. He passed around referral sheets and offered suggestions. He asked that this group meet once a month to address local disparities and barriers, along with concerns in Las Vegas. Blood drawing at HOPES, insurance gaps and the impact on receiving medications were brought up. He will be meeting with Kitty Jung on discrimination. Services that are provided during a doctor's visit should be available. The Client Advisory Board at HOPES was also brought up by Mr. Pitkin who had reached the three minute maximum of public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes from February 28, 2018, April 25, 2018, June 22, 2018 and August 22, 2018 Meetings

Minutes for the February, April and June meetings were available for review. Lyell made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Theron. Robert Harding abstained from voting. The motion passed.

4. Nominations for Community Co-Chair

Doug Hodges service as co-chair were acknowledged by the group. He has graciously served for multiple terms.

Nominations were opened for the community co-chair position. Pending nominations from the August meeting are held by Steve Daugherty and Doug Hodges. Steve withdrew his nomination and in turn, nominated Robert Harding.

Written votes were completed by voting members. Voting slips were collected by Xhoshia and tabulated. Robert Harding was selected as the Community Co-chair.

5. Integrated HIV Prevention & Care Community Plan Update

Listening sessions have been moved until after January. Questions are being finalized. Recruitment, logistics, note takers, recorders, and facilitator roles are available for volunteers to fill. HOPES, WCHD, ACCEPT, and the shelter are possible sites. A Spanish speaking group will need to be convened as well. Lyell asked that an Epi Update be provided by Theron, to further guide which target populations should be recruited.

6. World AIDS Day Activities Update

Robert reported that NNOT has worked with the HIV/AIDS Class at UNR. There will be a fundraiser brunch, a presentation of the class photo voice projects, a film showing and panel discussion, Latinx Pride will host activities, HOPES will be holding a primp and prep, WCHD is offering an extra day of testing at Our Center. The annual AIDS Fundraiser for the Residence Program is scheduled for that evening at Faces, followed by an after party at Faces. Lyell asked that information be shared in case the state sends out a press release on activities.

7. Agency Updates

- Lyell reported that the HIV Prevention Program is working with the UNR HIV class on surveying doctors on who is providing PrEP and PEP in their practice. A resource directory will provide information on the providers that are offering these services. Academic Detailing training is being held in December to engage providers on offering PrEP and PEP.
 - Vending machines that include syringe services is planning to be offered throughout the state by Trac B.
- Sarah noted that the End HIV Nevada website community calendar is up. Southern Nevada information has been included. Please submit Northern Nevada information to Sarah for inclusion.
- Brendan reported that Change Point is expecting to offer a PrEP clinic in January and February, along with nursing services.
- Kellie reported that HIV fast facts will be published. Non-health department participation and input on HIV clusters will be requested from this group in the near future. This will help information HIV prevention strategies.
- Jen escorted a UNSOM Resident on a tour of the bath house during his preceptorship with WCHD. He will be taking over Robin Titus' practice in Yerington as she moves toward retirement.
- ACCEPT has moved to 100 Washington, Suite 250.
- Doug spoke of his positive experiences with condom distribution at Kelly's bar in Sun Valley.
- Carson City HHS is working on their World AIDS Day plan. Movement continues on Carson being able to test in the Carson City jail. They have also reached out to area providers and

received information on condom distribution sites and opportunities within the communities surrounding Carson City.

- WCHD has a new staff person, Jessica Conner. She will be working across all aspects of the HIV program, with emphasis on identifying and engaging people living with HIV who are potentially out of HIV care. So far efforts have identified those truly out of care, people that are deceased and people that have moved out of the area. Efforts to locate people that have been identified that do not have contact information will continue. The out of care list has over 400 people identified.
- WCHD interns Jaz and Xhosha provided a brief presentation on the status of HIV Decriminalization efforts across the country including the differences in language between old and new laws. Information on the current Nevada laws related to HIV exposure, sex workers that are living with HIV was presented as well as the current regulations regarding testing in brothels. Iowa, Colorado, and Colorado decriminalization efforts were reviewed. U=U and detectable viral loads were discussed. Intent is the main focus on modernizing laws. Advocacy in the legislative session on HIV decriminalization and modernization will be addressed in partnership with Southern Nevada stakeholders. A bill to support providers being required to offer HIV testing to their patients will also be pursued. Jen needs approval for her efforts by the Health Officer. These efforts serve to reduce stigma and open opportunities for people living with HIV.
- A Project ECHO on congenital syphilis in Nevada is being offered in November.

8. Public Comment

None offered.

9. Adjournment

There was a motion by Robert to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Doug. Motion passed unanimously.